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June 15, 2017

Commissioners  
Federal Communication Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC 20554

*Re: WT Docket No. 17-79 / Accelerating Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment and Revising the Historic Preservation Review Process for Wireless Facility Deployments.*

Dear Commissioners:

I am the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, the governing body of the Upper Sioux Community. The Upper Sioux Community ("USC") is a federally recognized Indian community located near Granite Falls, Minnesota. I write on behalf of the USC to comment on the FCC's proposed rulemaking revising the historic preservation review process for wireless facility deployments.

The Upper Sioux Community, like all other tribal nations, takes its responsibility to identify and preserve cultural and historical properties very seriously. For far too long, this country has ignored or destroyed tribal artifacts with little or no thought or consideration. The Upper Sioux Community began reviewing tower placements for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA a number of years ago and during this time has developed an ongoing professional working relationship with the contractors, licensees and owners of cell towers.

The USC Tribal Historic Preservation Office ("THPO") strives to work quickly and efficiently with all participants in the review process for wireless facility deployments. The USC THPO's involvement in siting projects has led to the identification and cataloguing of previously unidentified cultural and burial sites. By identifying and avoiding these sites, the USC THPO reduces the chances of inadvertent discovery and the significantly higher costs and time associated with restoring a disturbed site.

The USC acknowledges that there is pressure to streamline Section 106 compliance. However, this nation is home to hundreds of federally recognized tribes each retaining its own inherent and unique cultural and historic properties. Developing a rigid one size fits all review and compensation structure would not give the proper recognition to the uniqueness of each site and the costs and expenses incurred by individual tribes with regard to each site. The USC suggests that any rulemaking in this area must include consultation and input of tribal representatives from a variety of tribal nations. As an agency of the federal government it is essential that the FCC engage in meaningful government-to-government consultation before moving forward with changes to the historic preservation review process.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. The USC looks forward to participating with other interested parties in finding agreeable solutions to the review process and fees associated with such review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kevin Jensvold".

Kevin Jensvold  
Chairman – Board of Trustees  
Upper Sioux Community